

on advertisement, children and adolescents will continue to be influenced by these pro-smoking messages in the media.

A majority of young people has been taught in schools about the dangers of smoking. The present survey does not include details about the content or quality of the curriculum, the preparation of the teachers on this topic, or the number or duration of the lessons taught.

RECOMMENDATIONS^c

The passage of the Comprehensive Anti-Smoking Bill or a Law for effective tobacco control at the national policy level is neutralized by the economic use of tobacco. Tobacco is one of the main foreign currency earners in the Philippines. As in any other country, one major problem that cannot be ignored is its increased use by young people and the long-term effects to their health.

From this survey, the increased use of cigarettes and other tobacco products by young people has been shown and many recommendations especially specific intervention programs can be drawn.

1. The Philippines needs a stronger anti-smoking legislation, re-echoing the World Bank Report recommendations, there is an urgent need to increase tobacco taxes, to ban sale of tobacco products to and by minors. These are proven effective strategies in other countries.
2. The “Clean Air Act” should be enforced, and strictly prohibit smoking in public places.
3. Strengthen Information, Education and Communication campaigns on health effects of tobacco in all settings, schools, community, and workplaces. The Non-government organizations, professional and allied health organizations could contribute their share in this crusade.
4. Initiate smoking cessation program in schools and make this more accessible for everyone who wish to quit.
5. To continue monitoring tobacco use and other risk behaviors in youth and among the population.

APPENDIX A: WEIGHTING, VARIANCE ESTIMATION, & STATISTICAL TESTING

Weighting & Variance Estimation

School, classroom and students data were weighted to produce total population estimated. The weighting factor reflects the probability of selection, non-response, and post-stratification (gender and year level). Variances were estimated using the general linear variance estimators. This method of computing variances takes into account the complex nature of the design and the classroom effect. It also accounts for sampling with the probability proportional to measure size. SUDAAN was used to compute standard errors for the estimates.

Statistical Testing for Differences

Confidence Interval

A percent and its estimated standard error may be used to construct confidence intervals (C.I.) about the percent. The C.I. is expressed as a range (upper and lower) around the percent. The C.I. range contains the average value of the percent, which would result if all possible samples were produced. The 95% C.I. suggests that if 100 samples were drawn and C.I.s were calculated for each, then the average value of the percent would be contained in 95 of the 100 C.I.s

The test of statistical significance is done by comparing the 95% C.I. for two percentages. If the C.I.s do not overlap, then the percentages are significantly different.

E.g., in the table on prevalence, 57 % males and 32 % females had ever tried smoking.

* The 95% C.I. for each percent is calculated by multiplying the standard error (SE) by 1.96, giving 4.0 and 2.9 for males and females respectively. Therefore the lower and upper bounds for the two percentages are

- Males 57.0% (53.0, 61.0)
- Females 32.0% (29.1, 34.9)

*Statistical difference is determined by comparing the upper bound, for the smaller % and lower bound, for the larger %.

- If the two ranges do not overlap, then the two %s are statistically (significantly) different at 95% C.I.
- If the two ranges overlap, then there is no statistical (significant) difference between the two %s, at the 95% C.I.
- In this example, the percentages 57.0% (53.0, 61.0) and 32.0% (29.1, 34.9) do not overlap. Males are significantly twice more likely than females to have ever smoked cigarettes.

APPENDIX B: DEFINITIONS and ACRONYMS

Definitions

Current smoker	Those who smoked cigarettes on 1 or more days in the past 30 days
Never smoker	A person who had never tried or experimented with cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs.
Passive smoking	The inhalation of environmental tobacco smoke
Population	A set of people or entities to which findings is to be generalized
Region	There are 16 main administrative regions in the Philippines, where one region is comprised of an average of 5 provinces
Sample	A collection of units, selected to draw conclusions about a population
Significance	The percent chance that a relationship found in the data is just due to an unlucky sample. And if we took another sample we might find nothing.
Youth	Aged between 10-24

Acronyms

Ads	Advertisement
CAG's	Country Activating Groups
C.I.	Confidence Interval
CDC	U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
ETS	Environmental Tobacco Smoke
GYTS	Global Youth Tobacco Survey
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
TFI	Tobacco Free Initiative
UN	United Nations
UNF	United Nations Foundation
UNFIP	United Nations Foundations for International Partnerships
UNICEF	United Nations children's Fund
WHO	World Health Organization